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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. PTK-228
(120306-157826)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Theriault, et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 3243
SERIAL NO.: 10/643,036 GROUP NO. : 3726
FILING DATE: August 18, 2003 EXAMINER: Compton, Eric B.
TITLE: PLATE HANDLING WITH THERMAL TENSIONING

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 27th day of September, 2005.


Linda M. Penta

Mail Stop Certificate of Corrections Branch
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Submitted herewith is/are:

- 1) Transmittal Form (1 page);
- 2) Request for Certificate of Correction Under 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322 with Exhibit A (13 pages);
- 3) Certificate of Correction (1 page, in duplicate)
- 4) A return receipt postcard; and
- 5) Certificate of First Class Mailing.

Certificate
SEP 30 2005
of Correction



TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Serial Number	10/643,036
Filing Date	August 18, 2003
First Named Inventor	Theriault
Group Art Unit	3726
Examiner Name	Compton, Eric B.
Attorney Docket No.	PTK-228
Patent No.	6,868,608 B2
Issue Date	March 22, 2005

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form

<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____]

<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time

<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449
<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations

<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Sequence Listing submission
<input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy/CD
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy
<input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s)

<input type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal

<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers)

<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer

<input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement

<input type="checkbox"/> CD(s) for large table or computer program

<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment After Allowance

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Certificate of Correction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Correction (in duplicate) | <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8

<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8


<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exhibit A |
|---|---|---|

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SIGNATURE BLOCK

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Applicants
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Date: September 27, 2005
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VER 12/00



PATENT
Atty. Docket No: PTK-228
(120306/157826)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR(S): Theriault et al.
PATENT NUMBER: 6,868,608 B2
ISSUE DATE: March 22, 2005 ASSIGNEE: Presstek, Inc.
TITLE: Plate Handling With Thermal Tensioning

Mail Stop Certificate of Corrections Branch
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER
35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322**

The Assignee of record of the above-referenced patent, Presstek, Inc., hereby requests that a Certificate of Correction be issued for U.S. Patent No. 6,868,608 B2 under 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322. An error is present in the Claims section of the issued patent. The Assignee believes that this error warrants issuance of a Certificate of Correction.

In claim 5, line 4, “;” should be deleted and replaced with --, a--. A copy of the Amendment and Response, dated September 15, 2004, is attached as Exhibit A. The relevant claim language has been highlighted. Accordingly, Assignee respectfully requests correction pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322.

A computer-generated copy of PTO Form-1050 is enclosed, in duplicate, and corrects the errors appearing in the above-referenced Letters Patent.

Assignee believes that the error detailed above represents a Patent Office mistake correctable pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 254 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.322. Accordingly, Assignee urges the

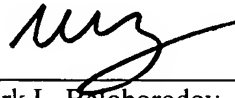
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Commissioner to issue a Certificate of Correction for U.S. Patent No. 6,868,608 B2 reflecting the correction as it appears on the enclosed PTO Form-1050.

Assignee believes that no fee is required, as the error is due to a Patent Office mistake. Should this belief be in error, please charge any additional fees to deposit account number 07-1700.

The Patent Office is invited to call the undersigned representative with any questions concerning the submission.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark L. Beloborodov, Esq.
Attorney for Assignee
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OCT 5 2005



PATENT
Atty. Docket No. PTK-228
(465/171)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Theriault et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 3243
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/643,036 ART UNIT: 3726
FILING DATE: August 18, 2003 EXAMINER: Eric B. Compton
TITLE: Plate Handling With Thermal Tensioning

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office action mailed June 15, 2004, Applicants respectfully submit the following Amendment and Response. Applicants believe that no fees are due, but the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendment to the Drawings are found on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at lines 16–21 on page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with the present invention, a heating element 230 having a partially cylindrical profile may circumferentially surround a portion of supply roll ~~225~~205.

Alternatively, a cooling element 235 (e.g., a set of refrigeration coils 237 and appropriate heat-exchange hardware) may be associated with the inner surface of cylinder 215. In general, cylinder 215 is metal, and the plate material on the surface of cylinder 215 will therefore cool by conduction.

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants amend Figure 2 to correct two typographical errors in which the original label reference number 220 is replaced by label 222 and original label reference number 222 is replaced by label 220. Applicants submit herewith replacement drawing sheet 2 and a marked up drawing sheet 2 reflecting this amendment. Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by this amendment.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder, a temperature of the plate exceeding a temperature of the cylinder, wherein the plate is unmounted externally to the cylinder; and
- b. wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature difference is at least 3 °C.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the temperature difference is established by heating the plate.

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein the plate is heated uniformly.

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A method of mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder, a temperature of the plate exceeding a temperature of the cylinder;
 - b. wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder. ~~The method of claim 1~~ wherein the plate is drawn from a roll disposed within the interior of the cylinder and advanced around an exterior surface of the cylinder.
7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the roll is heated.
8. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the exterior surface of the cylinder is cooled.
9. (currently amended) Apparatus for mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the apparatus comprising:
- a. means for establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder, wherein the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder and ~~such that~~ a temperature of the plate exceeds a temperature of the cylinder; and
 - b. means for facilitating wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder.
10. (original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the facilitating means comprises registration pins and clamps.

11. (currently amended) Apparatus for mounting a printing plate on a cylinder, the apparatus comprising:

a. means for establishing a temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder such that a temperature of the plate exceeds a temperature of the cylinder; and

b. means for facilitating wrapping the plate around the cylinder, the temperature difference causing the plate to shrink against the cylinder. ~~The apparatus of claim 9~~ wherein the plate is drawn from a roll disposed within the interior of the cylinder and advanced around an exterior surface of the cylinder, the facilitating means comprising:

a.(i) means, within the interior of the cylinder, for supporting the roll of plate material; and

b.(ii) means, within the interior of the cylinder, for receiving plate material extending over a travel path from the roll of plate material over the exterior surface of the cylinder.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the means for establishing a temperature difference comprises means for heating the roll.

13. (original) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the means for establishing a temperature difference comprises means for cooling at least the exterior surface of the cylinder.

14. (original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the temperature difference is at least 3 °C.

15. (original) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the means for establishing the temperature difference comprises means for heating the plate.

16. (original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the heating means comprises a heated surface conforming substantially to the plate.

17. (cancelled)

REMARKS

Administrative Overview

Initially, claims 1–17 were presented for examination. Claims 1, 6, 9, and 11 have been amended, and claims 5 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice. Upon entry of this paper, claims 1–4 and 6–16 will be pending in this application.

In the Office action mailed on June 15, 2004, claims 1, 3–4, 9, 10, and 15–16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,224,423 to Borel, and claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,219,085 to Watson. Further, claims 2 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel, and claims 5 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,025,751 to Wright. Claims 6–8 and 11–13 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1–4, 9, 10, and 14–16 and the objection to claims 6–8 and 11–13 and request reconsideration of these claims. Support for the amendments to the claims may be found, at least, for example, in the specification at page 6, line 6 to page 7 line 2, page 8, lines 19–22, and in Figures 1A and 1B.

Specification and Drawings

Applicants amend the specification and drawings as indicated above to correct typographical errors. Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments are corrections of obvious errors, and that both the errors and the appropriate corrections would be recognizable to a person skilled in the art. Applicants submit that no new matter is introduced by any of the foregoing amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of these Amendments to the specification and drawings.

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Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner for his time, helpful suggestions, and courtesy during the telephonic interview that took place on September 9, 2004.

Claims 1, 3-4, 9, 10, and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Borel. As discussed in the interview, Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 9 to recite that the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder when the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder is established. Support for these amendments may be found at least at page 6, line 6 to page 7, line 2, page 8, lines 19-22, and in Figures 1A and 1B. Borel, by contrast, does not teach or suggest establishing a temperature difference with the plate mounted externally to the cylinder. Rather, Borel teaches heating the plate when the plate is already in contact with and wrapped around the cylinder, as indicated, for example, in Borel's Figure 1 (reference labels P and Pp) and at column 3, line 63 to column 4, line 3 ("...thermal lengthening due to thermal waves 4 directed by a *concentric* thermal waves emitter 40 onto the cylinder Pp." [Emphasis added.]) Therefore, in light of the foregoing claim amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1 and 9 and their dependents are patentable over Borel.

Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Watson. As discussed above, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder when the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder is established. Watson does not teach or suggest establishing a temperature difference with the plate mounted externally to the cylinder. Rather, the establishment of the pre-tensioning temperature difference disclosed by Watson takes place between weld material and the cylinder *after* the mounting of the plate on the cylinder. For example, as cited in part by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office action, Watson discloses at page 2, column 2, lines 62-67:

"In the practice of my invention welds, uniting the sheets into an integral covering, are formed, *while* the said sheets are compressed about the body member. These welds exert, upon cooling, the tension

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desired to draw said integral covering into intimate relation with said body member.” [Emphasis added.]

Therefore, in light of the foregoing claim amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is patentable over Watson. Applicants herein cancel claim 5 without prejudice, rendering the rejection of claim 5 moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 9, 10, and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Rejections of Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel. Claims 2 and 14 depend respectively from independent claims 1 and 9 which, as currently amended, recite establishing the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder “wherein the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder.” This limitation is significant at least because the establishment of the temperature difference between the plate and the cylinder while the plate is not in contact with the cylinder helps reduce the risk of unwanted plate distortions (and resulting defective printing) caused by friction between the plate and the cylinder as the mounted plate shrinks against the cylinder (page 9, line 22 to page 10, line 1). As discussed above, Borel does not teach or even suggest establishing a temperature difference when the plate is mounted externally to the cylinder. Applicants therefore submit that, following the amendments to claims 1 and 9, Borel does not teach or suggest the subject matter of claims 2 and 14.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing reasons and amendment to claims 1 and 9, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 5 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borel in view of Wright. Applicants herein cancel claims 5 and 17 without prejudice.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-8 and 11-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the

limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter, and amend claims 6 and 11 by rewriting these claims in independent form, including all the limitations of respective base claims 1 and 9. Applicants note that the allowable claims share the advantage discussed in the foregoing paragraph with respect to the reduced risk of thermally-induced plate distortions, as compared to the approach disclosed in the cited art.

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing reason and amendments to claims 6 and 11, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to claims 6 and 11, and their dependents, claims 7, 8, 12, and 13.

CONCLUSION

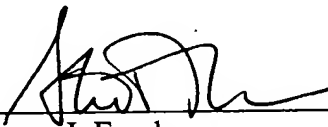
In light of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-4 and 6-16 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite the allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 15, 2004
Reg. No. 33,497

Tel. No.: (617) 310-8108
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3114066


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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,868,608 B2
DATED : March 22, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Theriault et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In claim 5, line 4, “;” should be deleted and replaced with --, a--.

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PATENT NO.: 6,868,608 B2

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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